Application No.: 09/987,699 Docket No.: 22130-00006-US

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A process to manufacture a clad strip, < 1.5 mm thick, suitable for use in the manufacture of brazed heat exchangers, comprising:

-casting of a plate made of core alloy comprising (% by weight):

Si < 0.8 Fe < 0.8 Cu: 0.2 - 0.9 Mn: 0.7 - 1.5 Mg < 0.4 Zn < 0.2 Ti < 0.1 other elements < 0.05 each and < 0.15 in total, the remainder aluminum, and wherein the core alloy contains less than about 0.01% of Cr, Zr, Hf, V or Sc,

-homogenization of said plate between 550 and 630°C for at least one hour,

-cladding on one or two sides of said plate of a brazing aluminum alloy,

-hot rolling followed by cold rolling of the plate to a thickness close to the final thickness,

-recrystallization annealing of the strip between 300 and 400°C,

-strain hardening of the annealed strip to obtain a permanent deformation between 2 and 10% of the final thickness.

2. (cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the brazing alloy comprises 5 to 13% silicon.

4. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the homogenization time is greater than 3 hours.

5. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the strain hardening of the annealed strip is performed with a permanent deformation between 4 and 8%.

6. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the strain hardening of the annealed strip is performed by skin-pass type rolling.

7. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the strain hardening of the annealed strip is performed by tension levelling.

8. (Withdrawn) A clad strip manufactured using a process according to claim 1, wherein, after shaping and brazing, said clad strip shows a perforation free service life in a SWAAT test according to ASTM G85 standard of over 45 days.

9. (New) A process according to claim 1, wherein said clad strip possesses a final recrystallized structure in order to avoid dislocations after brazing.